MASS INTENTIONS ~ Dec. 15 - 21

Intentions indicated by "+" are deceased; no notations are for living					
MONDAY 7:30 am – Peter Bauhs +					
5:30 pm – Carlin Family – Living & Deceased					
TUESDAY 7:30 am – Joyce Erpenbach					
WEDNESDAY 7:30 am – Don Wieseler					
THURSDAY 7:30 am – Anita Miller					
FRIDAY 7:30 am – Ralph Kopp +					
4th Sunday of Advent					
SATURDAY 5:30 pm – Leonard & Rosellen Sherman +					
SUNDAY 9:00 am – Don Brunner +					
5:30 pm – Parishioners					
MASS INTENTIONS: Other than at St. Therese					
Wednesday, December 17Special IntentionBy Fr. Zandri – Good Samaritan Center, New Underwood, 9:30 amThursday, December 18Leona BestBy Fr. Zandri – West Hills Village South – 4 pmSunday, December 21Anne R. Vandeberg +By Fr. Zandri – St. John's in New Underwood – 11 am					

FAMILY ROSARY: EVERY SUNDAY AT 7PM

EVERYONE WELCOME!!

Our Daily Scriptures

Monday Nm 24:2-7,15-17a Ps 25:4-5ab,6,7bc,8-9 Mt 21:23-27 Tuesday Zep 3:1-2,9-13 Ps 34:2-3,6-7,17-19,23 Mt 21:28-32 Wednesday Gn 49:2,8-10 Ps 72:3-4,7-8,17 Mt 1:1-17 Thursday Jer 23:5-8 Ps 72:1-2,12-13,18-19 Mt 1:18-25 Friday Jgs 13:2-7,24-25a Ps 71:3-4a,5-6b,16-17 Lk 1:5-25 Saturday Is 7:10-14 Ps 24:1-4b,5-6 Lk 1:26-38 Sunday 2 Sm 7:1-12,14a,16 Ps 89:2-5,27,29 Rom 16:25-27 Lk 1:26-38

Faithful Citizenship "We do not have to look far to see that more and more of our culture is becoming accepting of the homosexual lifestyle and same-sex unions. This is not too surprising as individualism and autonomous living continue to become the norm in our society. It seems to me that our society is at a crossroads in understanding the truth about marriage and the importance of the family in society. Marriage today is looked at more as a way to self-fulfillment. When something is valued only within the context of self-fulfillment, it is bound to be detrimental to society as a whole and to the common good. It is contrary to God's purpose for our lives. ... If the true meaning of marriage and the family is going to endure, much education and conversion must happen. Faithful Catholics must lend their voices to the discussion. If we believe in the sacredness of the sacrament of marriage, then we have to fight for it in our society today, not giving up hope, but finding ways to proclaim the truth about marriage and the family." **Bishop Robert D. Gruss**, Proclaim truth with love through open and honest discussion, *West River Catholic*, October 2014. www.rapidcitydiocese.org (From Diocesan Social Justice Commission www.rapidcitydiocese.org/WP/offices/social-justice-commission)

Liturgical Ministry Schedule – Dec. 20 & 21

 SAT.
 5:30 pm
 E.M.:
 Jill Leberknight, Marcia Zacher (S) Deacon Rausch, Jeff

 Cook, Patty Fritzie, Ellen McGuigan, Mary Ann Ries
 Lector:
 Tim & Paula Shull

 Ushers:
 Fred & Paula Welsch, Bob & Kay Olson
 Gift Bearers:
 Jack &

 Diane Tomac
 Altar Servers:
 Juliene & Justice Moore, Allison & Ben Schuch

 SUN.
 9 am
 E.M.:
 Jean French, Gayle Martin (S) Deacon Rausch, Donna

 Abrams, Julie Heintz, Ray & Mary Wagner
 Lector:
 David Dolan,

 Judee Popken
 Ushers:
 Al Thome, Brenda Wills, John & Nadine Zeller

 Gift Bearers:
 Jason & Donna Gorman Family
 Altar Servers:

 Thomas Gorman, Joshua French, Chloe Thome
 SUN. 5:30 pm
 E.M.:

 SUN. 5:30 pm
 E.M.:
 Elaine Kocher (S) Deacon Rausch, Rachel Edelen

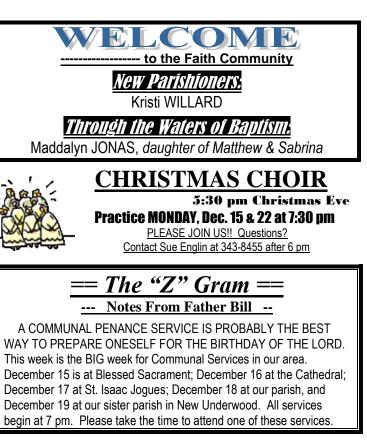
 Lector:
 Lori Ashley, Deanne Johnson
 Ushers
 Greg Rausch, Ben Schulz,

 Greg Suto, Will Winch
 Gift Bearer:
 Chuck & Holly Bossen Family

 Altar Server:
 Max Edelen, Seth Edelen, Jacob Rausch, Cooper Sand

Please remember to find a substitute if needed.

<u>The January, February & March Liturgical</u> <u>Schedule is in the works! So if you know you</u> <u>are going to be gone during that time, PLEASE</u> <u>call Gayle Martin at 718-4631 soon!!!</u>



ADVENT RECONCILIATION SERVICE at St. Therese is THURSDAY, DECEMBER 18 ~ at 7 pm



"I am a sinner.' Reach this awareness. Make this confession; it is the first condition for salvation." From "Mustard Seeds: Daily Thoughts to Grow With" By Matthew Kelly

Bulletin Prayer List:

Tim Ange, Don Anton, Marlene Baker, Jerry Bartholmay, Wendlin Baumgartner, Sharon Baumgartner, Larry Blote, Dewayne Borszich, Jeanne Carey, Margaret Chronos, Tina Chronos, Cindy, Eleanor Clarich, Dorothy Coats, Alice Cole, Barb Collins, Ed Davis, Colette DeVries, Brandon Eastman, Kelli Eastman, Ben Eicher, Don Everett, Lena Fagen, Cathy Falcone, Gene Farrell, Joan Feller, Sheryl Feller, Judy Fisher, Vic Gaudette, Darlene Grass, Leo Grebner, Alma Gruenig, Jim Hanna, Harold & Judy Hansen, Margaret Hansen, Sue Hayden, Jacob Heil, Charlie & Brandi Henriksen & Family, Charles Heweitt, Jeannine Hittle, Ellen Horan, Rosemary Huggins, Tim Irvine, Marlys Johnson, Baby Kash, Fern Keller, Shirley Kenoyer, Kathy Krause, Peter Krause, Melanie Lewis, Mike, Julie Lindy, Pearl Lyon, Kevin Maher, Mary Maher, Luke Mars, Susan McFadden, Robert Melvin, Jr., Anita Miller, Zane Morris, Tracey Mowery, Ron Oney, Heather Popken, Helen Quasney, Joyce Quinn, Dorothy Rapp, Ted & Judy Rapp, Joel Reed, Joseph Regal-Frazier, Mary Rieb, Andrea Rivera, Doyle Roseland, Karla Sandifer, Claude & Eileen Sauer, Deacon Jim Scherr, Beau Schumacher, Sister Marie Schwan, Leota Sidel, Mike Smaltz, Donna Stulken, Nick Tomac, Bud Torp, Betty Wilson, Al Winland Thank you for the continued prayers for Shania Coats & Ryan Wise

www.sainttheresechurch.org

The weekly bulletin can be found there, as well as other info. about our parish.

Altar Society Funeral Chairpersons ~ DECEMBER Chairperson: Team Co-Chair: Diane Ange

Rejoice; never cease praying. Let us never cease praying for an increase in vocations to the priesthood and religious life.
 (1 Thessalonians 5:16-24) PLEASE PRAY FOR VOCATIONS!

The Giving Tree

Thank you for taking a tag for the Parishioner Giving Tree and/or the Salvation Army Angel Tree.

Please return your unwrapped gift for Salvation Army or wrapped or unwrapped for Parishioner Tree)

by December 15th! Thank you so very much for sharing your gifts and blessings! Our parish is so awesome! Philippians 4:19 And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus.

This Christmas we're going to WRAP 'EM IN WARMTH & PRAYERS'

Seeking donations of throws and blankets show "our little way" to the recipients! If you know of someone that needs a little "family" warmth this Christmas, please call the office! IF YOU HAVE A THROW to donate, please bring to the office!

THANK YOU FOR HELPING show how much they are appreciated and loved! Let's wrap lots in warmth & prayers!

All of the people in today's readings - the prophet Isaiah, the Virgin Mary, St. Paul, St. John the Baptisit - seemed to understand clearly and rejoice in what God was calling them to be and to do. Do I?

GENERAL FUND: Contributions last week

	Envelopes	\$	9013.83			
	Plate Collection	\$	2133.20			
	Children's Collection	\$	95.38			
	Adult Education Program	\$	5.00			
	Gifts & Donations	\$	461.76			
	Facility Use Donation	\$	10.00			
	Rent from House	\$	1000.00			
	Immaculate Conception	\$	120.00			
	Solemnity of Mary	\$	10.00			
	Christmas	\$	110.00			
	Christmas Flowers	\$	71.00			
	Votive Candle Income	\$	70.20			
	TOTAL	\$	13100.37			
	Amount needed per week:	\$	6805.00			
NTRIBUTIONS TO CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND						
	Building Improvements	\$	244.00	•		
HANK YOU" FOR YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS TO:						
	Seminarian Fund	\$	149.00			
	Retired for Religious	\$	60.00			
	Priest Retirement Aid Association	\$	386.00			
	FAMILIES IN NEED FUND	\$	1000.00			
COLLECTIONS FOR DECEMBER:						

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Dec. 14: Retirement for Religious / General Fund Dec. 21: General Fund Dec. 25: Christmas Dec. 28: General Fund DEC.: Priest Retirement Aid Assoc., Building Improvement, Seminarian Fund

During Masses this weekend our parish will conduct the Retirement Fund for Religious collection. This annual appeal benefits some 35,000 senior Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests.



Oh goodie-ness! THANK YOU to all those that baked or provided, or bought our goodies at the **Steubenville CHRISTMAS BAKE SALE!!** Together, we raised \$304 for the Steubenville trip!

THE WEEKLY FUNNY ... from father Bill

Dolphins are so intelligent that within a few weeks of captivity they can train a man to stand on the edge of their pool and throw them fish three times a day.



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Christmas is a time for giving and sharing and what better way to do that than purchasing 'We Care Gift Cards'! You can help the needy AND get your holiday shopping

done at the same time!!! They're available for many area stores including Walmart/Sam's Club, Safeway, Family Thrift Center/Prairie Market, and Don's Valley Market and they're good for all kinds of things like clothes, toys, music and even gasoline. Come by our table after mass or visit the ladies in the parish office. You'll be glad you did!

So, you heard that Don's Valley Market has a new owner? NOT TO WORRY - We Care Food Certificates are still good and being honored by the new owners. Yes, you can still buy We Care ... & shop! ... at Don's!!

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This is **not** the list in the bulletin.

If you would like prayers or would like to be a link in the prayer chain, please contact Anne Pozorski at 721-1229.

NOW THROUGH DECEMBER!! BABY JESUS SHOWER



0-6 MONTH "GIFTS" FOR BIRTHRIGHT

Please place all items in the cradle "manger" at either entrance.

SOUP & CRACKERS, CEREAL & TOILET PAPER

ARE NEEDED AT CHURCH RESPONSE Please place your items in box at either entrance! THANK YOU !!

MOMMY'S CLOSET Items in need are: Winter clothing & coats/jackets size newborn – 6T

We greatly appreciate all your contributions. Thank you for your kindness to mothers and their little ones! Please place all items in the cradles at either entrance.



Go to the parish website to view the Origin of our beloved St. Therese statue! Parishioner Dale Schumacher has done extensive research. **VERY** interesting! Go to sainttheresechurch.org and click on the link on the home page.

ADVENT RECONCILIATION SERVICES at 7 pm



<u>Monday, December 15</u> ~ Blessed Sacrament <u>Tuesday, December 16 ~ Cathedral OLPH</u> <u>Wednesday, December 17</u> ~ St. Isaac Jogues

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 18 ~ ST. THERESE

Friday, December 19 ~ St. John's, New Underwood

& EVERY SATURDAY FROM 4 TO 5 PM AND SUNDAY FROM 8 TO 8:30 AM AT ST. THERESE

Knights of Columbus 2nd Annual BOWLING TOURNAMENT Meadowood Lanes January 17th

Registration starts at 1 pm (Pre-registration encouraged) \$80 entry for 4 person team



CASH PRIZES/DOOR PRIZES/ STRIKE POT & MORE! Proceeds to "Coats for Kids" Put a team together and

come join the fun!!! Questions or to sign up, call 381-6027.

ANOTHER WEEKLY FUNNY ... from father Bill

Father Bill asked little Lucy what she thought of her first Church service. She said, "Father, the church music was really good, but, the commercial was awfully long."

Share the Christmas spirit with Veterans!! Once again we are collecting socks, underwear/shorts, t-shirts and toiletries for the VA Home. Thank you, in advance, for your support.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION SCHEDULE

<u>Grades PreK - 5th: SUNDAYS- 10:15 - 11:30 am</u> <u>AND CONFIRMATION: Grades 9 & 10 (and 11- 12 if needed):</u> <u>& *NEW* & EXCITING!!! YDISCIPLE Small Group (11th & 12th)</u> SUNDAYS: 6:30 -8:30 pm

 Dec. 14
 Happy Birthday Jesus Party / Christmas Party

 Dec. 21, 28
 No Class – Christmas / New Year

 Youth Connection: Grades 6 - 8: WEDNESDAYS- 6 – 7:30 pm

 Meal provided

 Dec. 17
 Class – Christmas Party

 Dec. 24, 31
 No Class – Christmas / New Year

Save . . . and recycle. The Funeral Dinner committee volunteers would appreciate some LARGER containers to wrap leftover cakes in.

You all have done amazingly well with the cottage cheese and butter tubs and cool whip containers to send salads home. Thank you! Now, we are asking you to please save (and recycle!) your microwavable lasagna containers, and aluminum cake pans, etc. We can certainly put some of these LARGER containers to good use.

Grand Ultreya December 14, at Blessed Sacrament Church, Grand Ultreya. It is the celebration to welcome all new *Cursillistas*. Pot Luck at 6 pm, *Ultreya* at 7 pm We will sing Christmas Carols in between, and just enjoy getting together with friends, prayer and witness. Please come! Baby sitter if needed, call Lynda Jacquot-Imberi 605-390-9379.

take life in a new direction

find support to launch out 🏾 🏹

Life INC's classes offer you a place where you can take your life in a new direction. This free program provides a meal before classes, childcare during classes, and resources for participants. Find answers for finances, parenting, faith and life (see below). Complete class descriptions are available at <u>www.loveinconline.com</u> or call Love INC at 718-5683. See flyer on bulletin board for location. *Class titles: Financial Freedom; Money 101; Common Sense Parenting; Strengthening Families; Tools for Loving Relationships; Best of Dave Ramsey; Bridges to Freedom; Employment Prep; Jobs for Life; Nutrition on a Budget; Christianity Explored; Wounded by Shame, Healed by Grace. Most classes begin on Jan. 8, 2015.* **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: include mentors (budget, employment, faith), children's ministry helpers, serving meals as group project, classroom asst., administration and teachers. Call Love INC to learn more. FYI: St. Therese parish will be serving a meal this quarter at Main Campus. Call Kathy Grebner at 718-1404.**

Black Hills CHRISTMAS TAIZE Service, Join us Monday, December 22nd, 7:00 p.m. in Holy Cross Chapel at Terra Sancta for a special Taizé prayer service for Christmas. Sandi Ohlen, featured soloist, and others will highlight the story of Christ's birth through song, silence and scripture. All are welcome. Free-will donations at the door.

<u>Christmas Prayer Labyrinth</u> is available for walking daily starting Tues., Dec. 16 – 31st at Terra Sancta Retreat Center, 2101 City Springs Rd., Rapid City from 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. daily. (except Dec. 24th and 25th). Advent Prayer guides and information on how to pray using the labyrinth will be available. Bring your family and friends for a quiet, meditative prayer experience as we celebrate the birth of Jesus bringing love into our world. Free will offering available.

Seeking a member of the parish to sit on the Church Response Board of Directors. Typically only meet on 3rd Monday evening of the month.

If you might be interested, see Father Bill or call the parish office.

Our Christmas Gift to YOU!

Have family or friends visiting this Christmas? Do you plan to visit the Rapid City area? Enjoy a quiet stay with us at Terra Sancta Retreat Center at a discounted rate – just \$75 per family style room per night (tax included). Go to http://terrasancta.org/Christmas2014/ to make your reservation today! Rates honored December 15-31.

ONE MORE FUNNY ... from Father Bill

Little Johnny, excited about his part in the Christmas play, came home and said, "I got a part in the Christmas play." Mom replies, "What part?" Johnny said, "I'm one of the 3 Wise Guys"

What we've done to the least of our brothers and sisters we've done to Christ. Choose to serve in every instance; listen for a call to service as a priest, brother, or sister. (Matthew 25:31-46) PLEASE PRAY FOR VOCATIONS!

www.sainttheresechurch.org

The weekly bulletin can be found there, as well as other info. about our parish. It's full of information! Check it out!

An Update from the Hope For New Life (HFNL) Jail Ministry Annual Christmas Jail Program 2014

Imagine a Christmas holiday during which you were separated from your family and friends? Now imagine your separation from your loved ones being a result of your incarceration in Pennington County Jail. While it is difficult for most of us to think of ourselves in jail during the Christmas holiday, this is a fact for nearly 500 prisoners currently serving sentences in our community. For several years, the HFNL Ministry and Destiny Four Square Church have reached out to these men and women through our annual Christmas program. This year's Christmas Program will take place on Sunday December 21, 2014 from 3 to 7 pm. The program consists of caroling by our ministry members, enhanced by the talented voices and guitar playing skills of several volunteers from our different parishes. During the Christmas program, we will also distribute between 500-600 bags of holiday candies and Holy cards to the inmates. Volunteers needed for assembling the candy bags at Blessed Sacrament Parish Center on 19 Dec at 5:30 pm.] The Christmas program is uplifting for all who participate and is a truly wonderful way to honor Our Savior's birth. If you like to sing, we welcome your participation. We are also asking for donations for the jail of puzzles (especially those with a Christian theme), checker games, decks of cards, and paperback books (themes: action, Westerns, historical). Donations can be placed in specially marked boxes in your parishes. To volunteer to take part in the Christmas program, please contact Cathie Harris at 431-8370. Volunteers will need to complete a form for the Jail to approve their entrance. This form must be returned by December 5th. Thank you! To learn more about the HFNL ministry please contact Bill Gradoville (341-2721) or Jennifer Shama (381-1118). You are also welcome to attend our monthly HFNL meetings every 3rd Monday of the month at Catholic Social Services at 6:30 pm.

St. Therese Prayer

St. Therese, the Little Flower, please pick me a rose from the heavenly garden and send it to me with a message of love. Ask God to grant me the favors I ask, I thee implore, and tell Him I will love Him each day more and more.



Środowisko Young Adult Events

Środowisko /Shroe-doe-VEES-koe/, Polish, noun, defn.: milieu, environment, surroundings. This is the term used by Bl. John Paul II to describe the network of young adults and young married couples with whom Fr. Wojtyla prayed, played and discovered Christ during the early years of his priesthood. For our own diocesan środowisko, we will be having monthly events of prayer and fellowship for young adults ages 18-35. December Środowisko is Friday, December 19. Frosty Film Festival at Terra Sancta, 7 p.m. Holiday movies, hot cocoa, and popcorn. Check out our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/rcyoungadults or contact Bridget Decker, 716-5214 x233,

www.tacebook.com/rcyoungaduits or contact Bridget Decker, 716-5214 x233, bdecker@diorc.org or Kelly LaFleur, kelafleur@gmail.com for more details.

Catholics Returning Home

Have you been away from the Church for awhile? Have you ever thought about returning? Do you know someone who wants to return to the church? If so, there is a special ministry for people who have been away from the Church. The six-week "Catholics Returning Home" series begins at **7 p.m. on Tuesday, January 6, 2015 at Blessed Sacrament, 4500 Jackson Blvd., Rapid City.** For more information, contact Dcn. Greg Sass at <u>gsass@diorc.org</u> or 605-939-0579, or visit <u>http://ReturningCatholics.net</u>. There is no charge and pre-registration is not required.

"Diocesan Masses for Life" Matching Grant: Again this year, The Diocesan Social Justice Commission will match total donations made for the "Diocesan Masses for Life" project, up to a total of \$250. These Masses are coordinated by the Blessed Sacrament Parish Pro-Life Committee, but are offered at parishes throughout the diocese. This is the eighth year the diocese has matched funds for the daily Masses offered throughout the diocese for the protection of all life. Prayer is essential to ensuring a culture of life in South Dakota and throughout the nation. Donations must be postmarked on or before December 31, 2014. Please send donations to: Diocesan Masses for Life, c/o Mary Mitchell, 113 Berry Pine Rd., Rapid City, SD 57702.

FAMILY LIFE MINISTRIES

For info. on the following ministries, call FLM, 716-5214 x236

Beginning Experience[®] Level 1 Separated, Divorced & Widowed Support Group, "COPING WITH LIFE ALONE". Are you recently separated or divorced? Are you struggling with the pain and loneliness? Healing can begin with the next nine-week session of the support group. The group starts at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, January 15, 2015 at St. Therese the Little Flower Church, 532 Adams St., Rapid City. The non-denominational group is open to all Christian men and women who are hurting due to separation or divorce. Registration fee: \$30.00; need-based scholarships available. Pre-registration is requested! For more information and to pre-register, contact Jill at Family Life Ministries, 605-716-5214 ext. 236 or jslegner@diorc.org.

<u>Heart to Heart: A Weekend Retreat for the Engaged</u> is a weekend getaway for engaged couples to deepen their relationship with each other and with God by exploring the Catholic Church's vision of marriage. The next weekend retreat will be held at Terra Sancta Retreat Center, January 23-25, 2015. Please register on-line at <u>www.terrasancta.org</u>. For more information or to register, contact Jill at Family Life Ministries, 716-5214 x 236 or <u>islegner@diorc.org</u>. Note: Attendance at a "Heart to Heart" weekend retreat is a requirement for engaged couples planning to get married in the Diocese of Rapid City.

HEAL YOUR GRIEF Bereavement Support Group group open to all Christian adults who are grieving the loss of a loved one. The support group begins at **7:00 p.m., Monday, January 26, 2015,** at Blessed Sacrament Church, 4500 Jackson Blvd., Rapid City. Please come early to register! For information or to pre-register, call Janece Rieman, 605-343-5547 or Jill at Family Life Ministries, 605-716-5214 x 236.

<u>Retrouvaille</u> is a confidential weekend that offers hope and help for couples to heal and renew their marriage relationship. The next weekend is February 27-March 1, 2015 at *The Abbey of the Hills* near Marvin, SD (formerly Blue Cloud Abbey). Retrouvaille is a peer-to-peer ministry and has helped couples experiencing chronic communication problems, as well as those who thought they were beyond hope, already separated, or even divorced. Please keep this weekend in mind for any couple you feel would be open to this healing opportunity. For more information or to register, please contact 605-988-3755. For general information visit: <u>www.retrouvaille.org</u>.

Mark your calendars! <u>Married Sweethearts Mass & Dinner-Dance, Saturday,</u> <u>February 7, 2015</u> Join us for this year's event, "A Sweet Kiss Shared by Two". Mass will be celebrated at 5:30 p.m. with Fr. Brian Lane at Blessed Sacrament Church, 4500 Jackson Blvd., Rapid City. The dinner-dance will follow at Stagestop Receptions, I-90 & Exit 48, Piedmont, SD. Registration fee: \$60 per couple. Registration is required! Registration deadline: Wednesday, January 21, 2015. Late registrations will not be accepted. Please consider sponsoring a couple who would like to attend, but cannot afford the fee. For more information, please contact Jill at Family Life Ministries, 605-716-5214 x 236 or jslegner@diorc.org.

